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Patent
Attorney Docket No. 1032498-000023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Urs Jorimann et al.)	
Application No.: 10/786,540)	Group Art Unit: 3621
Filing Date: February 26, 2004)	Examiner: CRISTINA O. SHERR
Title: METHOD OF CONTROLLING)	Confirmation No.: 3251
ELECTRONIC RECORDS)	
)	
)	
)	

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- ☒ A Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed.
- ☐ _____ Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the ☐ \$ 65 ☐ \$ 130 fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are enclosed.
- ☐ Also enclosed is/are: _____
- ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$ 395 ☐ \$ 790 fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- ☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted _____ on _____ for which continued examination is requested.
- ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- ☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

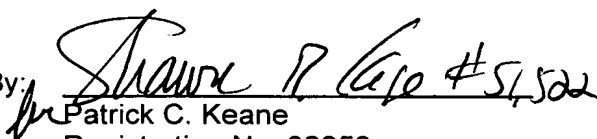
AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	0	20	0	x \$ 50 (1202)	\$ 0
Independent Claims	0	3	0	x \$ 200 (1201)	0
<input type="checkbox"/> If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$ 360 (1203)					\$ 0
Total Claim Amendment Fee					\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$ 0

- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☒ Charge \$120.00 to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date January 19, 2007

By: 
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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 1032498-000023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	Mail Stop Amendment
)	
Urs Jorimann et al)	Group Art Unit: 3621
)	
Application No.: 10/786,540)	Examiner: Cristina O. Sherr
)	
Filed: February 26, 2004)	Confirmation No.: 3251
)	
For: METHOD OF CONTROLLING)	
ELECTRONIC RECORDS)	

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In an Official Action dated December 1, 2006, the Examiner indicated that election of one of the following Species is required:

- Species A: Claim 2, drawn to a method for controlling electronic records that conforms to requirements set by the Food and Drug Administration;
- Species B: Claim 3, drawn to a method for controlling electronic records where access is subject to additional user authentication;
- Species C: Claims 4-12, and 19 drawn to a method for controlling electronic records where at least one electronic signature includes a plurality of electronic signatures; and
- Species D: Claim 13 drawn to a method for controlling electronic records wherein a remark is attached to the electronic signature.

In response to this election requirement Applicants provisionally elect Species C, with traverse. Furthermore, Applicants submit that the election requirement is in error. It is believed that in examining the non-elected claims, the Examiner will search the same classes of art as is required to search the invention of the elected claims, resulting in the same references being cited against both of the aforementioned groups of claims.

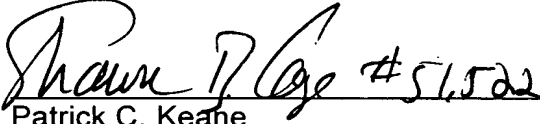
Thus, restricting the claims to the elected species will not reduce the workload of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or simplify prosecution of the application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the aforementioned election requirement is respectfully requested. Because the Examiner indicated that claims 1 and 18 are generic to Species A-D, Applicants reserve the right to rejoin the non-elected claims upon allowance of the generic claims. Applicants respectfully request favorable examination of claims 1, 4-12, and 14-19.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: January 19, 2007

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